



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE ARRESTS HAITIAN FUGITIVE WITH CHICAGO GANG TIES *Black Gangster Disciple has numerous criminal convictions*

CHICAGO—A Haitian member of the Black Gangster Disciples street gang was arrested yesterday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) deportation officers as part of an enforcement initiative targeting criminal alien fugitives.

Jores Vieux, 32, was arrested Wednesday morning at his residence in the 6400 block of N. Ridge without incident. During the arrest ICE officers encountered drug paraphernalia in Vieux's apartment, including a scale, cutting board, small bags of what appeared to contain marijuana, and "bombers"—cigars that are emptied out and repacked with marijuana. ICE officers called the Chicago Police Department, whose officers took possession of the alleged controlled substances.



During an interview, Vieux admitted to ICE officers that he joined the Black Gangster Disciples as a teenager. He has two teardrop tattoos under his right eye. Teardrop tattoos are said to represent jail time, or that the wearer has killed someone or lost a family member, a fellow gang member or a friend.

Vieux first entered the United States as a legal permanent resident, or "green card" holder, in 1981. He has a 1993 conviction in Cook County on drug charges, and a 1998 conviction in U.S. District Court of Northern Illinois for counterfeiting. Based on his criminal convictions he was stripped of his legal permanent resident status and ordered deported by a federal immigration judge in March 2003. Vieux appealed his case to the Board of Immigration Appeals but the appeal was dismissed in June 2004.

On Apr. 28, 2005, Vieux was ordered to present himself at the ICE office in Chicago for removal. He defied the order and remained in the U.S. as a fugitive, thereby becoming a target for ICE's National Fugitive Operation Program (NFOP).

NFOP is a new program that specifically targets fugitive aliens—individuals who were previously ordered deported from the U.S and failed to surrender to the federal government, thereby becoming alien absconders. ICE’s Chicago Fugitive Operations Team, through its targeted enforcement efforts, arrested 572 fugitive aliens in a six-state area during the last fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, 2004.

“ICE was created to restore integrity to this country’s immigration system,” said Deborah Achim, Chicago’s field office director for Detention and Removal Operations (DRO). “We will continue to identify, arrest and remove fugitives who blatantly disregard our laws and defy the orders of our federal immigration judges.” Achim oversees ICE DRO in a six-state area that includes: Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kentucky, Kansas and Missouri.

Vieux will remain in ICE custody until his deportation to Haiti.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.